

Smart Gowns in White.

Pure White for Morning Wear is One Innovation of the Season—Clever Ideas for Summer Dressmaking.

New York, July 5.—The woman in white is simply ubiquitous, for the sex that dresses elaborately and thereby makes the biggest fly-wheels of commerce go round, is about to deal with weather that gives her the greatest charm of appearance and comfort when she is arrayed in swan-like raiment. A greater number of yards of white organdie have been sold for this season's wear than for half a dozen previous springtimes, say the dealers in dry goods, and the dressmakers corroborate the assertion. One needle artist willingly displayed to privileged eyes some wondrously filmy, flouncy things that were in process of packing for forwarding to a group of debutantes at New York.

"Everybody this season with just the necessary number of exceptions to prove the rule," explained the dressmaker, "is wearing pure white for morning; pure white lawn and organdie touched with black panne or velvet ribbon in the code fashionable for church going, and all our smart summer coaching, automobile and picnic suits are cut from white French linen or 4.50 de Nimes. Here is a study for 11 o'clock service on a bright, hot Sunday," and there was spread forth a lovely double flounced cloud of organdie made light as soapuds in aspect by the vertical insertions of white Valenciennes threading the two very full valences at intervals of two inches. All the fluttering daintiness was dropped upon a

it was. With geometric nicety the skirt was laid from waist to below the knees in tucks placed close together and of a narrowness that forced them to stand out straight from the surface of the goods. The tucking grew shorter at the rear of the jupe and thus created a full flounce-like effect about the foot. With this skirt was worn a captivating shirt waist of finest white linen, relieved with polka dots of zinc blue, and a collar, tie and broad girder of plain white linen.

Over the skirt was drawn a bolero jacket of tucked mohair bound with a band of white embroidery about all its edges, garnished with five little bullet shaped mohair buttons on either side



A White Mohair Suit, an Ideal Boating and Picnic Costume For Lake George.

and coquishly finished with sleeves that drew a few inches beyond the elbow and broadened at the end in order to give the shirt's sleeves the effect of an under sleeve. To finish all this off went a hat in sailor shape of dotted linen in the front, and with right-angled pride the composer of the gown viewed her handiwork.

"I've got another rather smart little composition here in white drap de Nimes," she volunteered. "That is a new light wool goods that has been in vogue these three months in Paris, and the weave of the goods is said to be just the same as that of the stuff of which fashionable Roman ladies made their costumes in the days when Nimes was a Roman city. The dress of which I speak is going to a lakeside resort not far from Chicago, and it will be used for going to call and to teas in a smart automobile. As you see, the effect aimed at is the ever popular princess mode, and this broad, horizontal tucking on the skirt and waist is the latest popularity for slim, well-figured women. Down the front from throat to toes the continuous panel is outlined by bands of heavy cream guipure on the wool, and handsome wheels of guipure set at intervals down the center of the panel harmonize with the lace relief, repeated in epaulettes on the collar and at the cuffs. The one touch of color is a strap and bow of pastel yellow taffeta at the waist line. If I do say it myself, that is a quite perfect suit, and I have bought to go with it a pastel yellow silk parasol having a white handle and a flaring pompadour hat of pastel yellow straw with a huge cabbage of white silk at one side.

A Novelty in Mourning.
"Here you will see something quite new this season," continued the modiste with agreeable garrulity. "The white mourning—only the unmarried women wear it so far, and we don't consider anything but white etamine, crepe, lusterless taffeta, India lawn, etc., as strictly mourning, and we trim with dead surface taffeta ribbon and white velvet a good deal of the sweetest suits I have made this season is a pure white etamine trimmed with quillings of white crepe, and the hat was a white mohair shape, set off with white crepe folds and bows and a few clusters of white pearl de jardin roses so arranged that no foliage showed. A dull white taffeta parasol and white shoes made this one of the most becoming and suitable driving or church dresses I have turned out of my workrooms in six months.

New Dancing Footgear.
"But before you go to let me show you some of the newest ideas in dancing footgear that have just this week been put on the market. You know, when we modistes take an order for a frock nowadays we contract to provide the toilet with or without furnishings. That means with or without the gloves, shoes, hose, hat, parasol, hair ornament, handkerchief and fan, or whatever is necessary to make it a rounded out costume. Usually with ball dresses we supply the slippers and hose or silk stockings, and the smartest bit of smartness just now is steel gray lace kid slippers, embroidered on the toes in gray chenille and steel or jet beads. Gray silk hose go with these, and they are peppered over with black chenille dots and steel points.

"Just as new, but not yet quite so popular, are absolutely undecorated dancing sandals of black or white panne worn with very gay hosiery. For example, with one pair of black panne shoes I sent a pair of white lisse hose having a wondrous broad zig-zag line embroidered in black directly down the front of the leg. With a pair of white slippers I sold pure Irish green silk hose, elaborately openworked up the front of the ankle to show the pale pink of the dainty foot beneath."

At this juncture there was a violent ringing at the telephone in the dressmaker's sanctum and a voice in a shrill, pretty creature at Lake George. It was what I would call an ideal boating and picnic dress, and so



A Newport Gown For 11 O'Clock Sunday Service, a Cloud of Organdie Touched With Black.

foundation of pure white silk that comes from Japan, is very crisp, but this almost as muslin, and is called in the trade messine silk because the girls in the smart set of Tokyo use it as a lining for their summer kimonos.

"The waist of the organdie was lined with silk only as high as the bust in order to let the fair wearer's white chest and shoulders shine softly through a high colored yoke made of alternating bands of transparent goods and lace insertion. A big bertha of organdie and lace dropped about the shoulders, and there were lace trimmed scarfs of the material wafted to the knees from a knot of black wired panne on the breast. Long, full rucked organdie sleeves and a belt and bow finished strap of panne completed this pretty toilet, excepting the hat, which was a wide brimmed affair, made of tulle and lace, and edged with broad white black panne on the crown, which was piled with masses of marigolds.

"When my lady comes at last timid and stopping fast, I said: 'Can you picture anything more sweetly effective than this at the church gate?' inquired the maker of



A Swell Automobile Dress of Drap For Calls and Afternoon Teas.

gown, and we have turned out dozens already for the same purpose, never adopting an involved design, as fancy frocks are not the thing for church going. What we do do, however, is to use a good deal of simple, inexpensive lace and to give the expansive aspect to the feet of skirts by gathering in the flounces just as full as the thread can pull the goods.

Lake George and Chicago.

"Let me show you a most attractive white mohair suit that is about to set out on its life's work in the wardrobe of a slim, pretty creature at Lake George. It is what I would call an ideal boating and picnic dress, and so

congenial tasks than the tale of her triumphs in the designing and execution of masterly frocks.

MARY DEAN.

STENOGRAPHER MUST COOK.

New Accomplishment Required by Business Men.

Business men are not willing to admit it, but the fact remains that the employment of so many women clerks, cashiers, stenographers, etc., in offices has brought about many curious social changes in the downtown district.

For instance, one sees fewer masculine feet hoisted on top of desks than of old and hears much less strictly unscriptural language.

But the most curious development, probably, is the conflict between the tea cup and the cocktail glass, with the odds at present in favor of the former. Tyson is crowding both Manhattan and Martini. Afternoon tea is a far from unusual thing now in business offices—especially among lawyers and literary men. To brain-workers tea is a sedative to over-excited nerves, and when the strain of the day is over a hot cup of "oolong" or "English Breakfast" isn't half bad. It induces a sweet consciousness of innocence and keeps one out of mischief.

For some time it has been the habit of a man at the head of a big newspaper to have his pot of tea every afternoon at 4 o'clock. He uses a coquishly pretty china tea service, brags of his special blend of tea, and one of the office boys

fetches regularly a fresh supply of cream.

The process of brewing this tea is one of great ceremony, and no matter what happens, is never neglected. The small japanned tea-caddy is in a silver holder. The silver tray is covered with a napkin radiating from work. The water is boiled in a shining brass kettle, and the cups are fine and delicate as egg shells. It is brought into his office by a colored attendant, whereupon the great man measures out just so many teaspoonfuls (not forgetting one for the pot), pours the proper quantity of water over the aromatic leaves and allows them to steep just so many minutes by the watch. In solitary state he drinks his customary number of cups and then prepares to leave his office for the day.

Contrasted with this idyllic picture is the tea drinking in a very famous publishing house. Here, as the clock strikes 4, the heads of the departments, men and women, congregate in one of the rooms, ready for their social half hour of gossip and tea. The equipage here is not as elegant as that of the great editors, but the women present give an agreeable home-likeness absent from the solitary tea drinking.

The women take turns presiding at this 4 o'clock tea. The men sit around and are waited upon, and they secretly enjoy the sensation as men always do, and many a book has been made or annihilated at these informal functions.

Here is a want notice which appeared the other day in a morning newspaper: "Wanted—A stenographer who can cook." Evidently the stenographer is leading to greater things. A type-writing machine with an oil stove annex is a glittering possibility in the business career of the new woman of the future.

OLD FASHIONED CUSTOMS FOR COUNTRY WEDDINGS

In England there are several wedding customs peculiar to localities. At Stoke Newington, for example, a chain of flowers is drawn across the street and the bride and groom are not allowed to pass on their way home until the bridegroom has satisfied the demands of the holders for money wherewith to drink the health of the happy couple. When the ropes were drawn, the bride and groom were to be seen at several places the toll mounts up to a considerable sum.

Silver sand is spread on the pavement in front of the bride's house after she has set out for the church. The sand is arranged in the form of wreaths, flowers, half-moons and mottoes, and good wishes for the bride's happiness. Other houses in the street are also similarly adorned, and numerous flowers of sand and hearty good wishes greet the bride on her return to her home. The origin of this is explained: King Canute, after forcing a brook, sat down to shake the sand out of his shoes. While he was doing this a bride passed by, and he shook the sand in front of them, wishing them joy and as many children as there were grains of sand.

Mrs. Gaskell wrote that when she was married all the houses in the town were sandied, and this was the favorite verse inscribed on the sand:

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